

# Files and Directories Permissions Policies

## Category: Security Policies

### DRAFT

This article is being reviewed for completeness and technical accuracy.

**Write permission is granted only to the file owner.** That is, files and directories may not be writable by group and/or others unless there is a valid justification. By default, files and directories are set with owner permissions.

To request write permissions for members of your group or others, your principal investigator (PI) must submit a valid justification by calling 1-800-331-USER or 1-650-604-4444, or by sending an e-mail to [support@nas.nasa.gov](mailto:support@nas.nasa.gov). The request will be reviewed by the NAS security officer.

For directories, if a world write permission is approved by the security officer, the "sticky bit" must be set also (`chmod +t`) on that directory to prevent an unprivileged user from deleting or renaming files of other users in that directory.

File and directory permissions are routinely scanned for violation of this policy. For those files/directories that are permitted by the security officer to be writable by group and/or others, they will be recorded on an exception list.

---

Article ID: 158

Last updated: 24 May, 2011

Policies -> Security Policies -> Files and Directories Permissions Policies

<http://www.nas.nasa.gov/hecc/support/kb/entry/158/?ajax=1>